

SUMMARY OF 2007-2008 ILLINOIS DEER SEASONS

Forest Wildlife Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



General Information

Season Dates:

Archery Season – October 1, 2007 through January 17, 2008, closed during firearm deer season in counties open to firearm deer hunting

Youth Season – October 6-7, 2007

Firearm Season – November 16-18; November 29-December 2, 2007

Muzzleloader Season – December 7-9, 2007 (also allowed November 29-December 2)

Late-Winter Antlerless Season/CWD Season – January 18-20, 2008

Total Days of Deer Hunting: 112

Bag Limit: One deer per legal permit, with no set limit for total number of deer allowed. No more than 2 antlered deer during the year, except additional antlered deer may be taken during the special CWD season only.

Significant Changes: (1) Youth Deer Season was changed to a statewide either-sex season (99 counties) - previously it was an antlerless-only season held in a limited number of counties; (2) persons with unfilled permits for the Youth Deer Season were allowed to use these permits during the Late-Winter deer season to harvest antlerless deer, so long as the permit was issued for an open county.

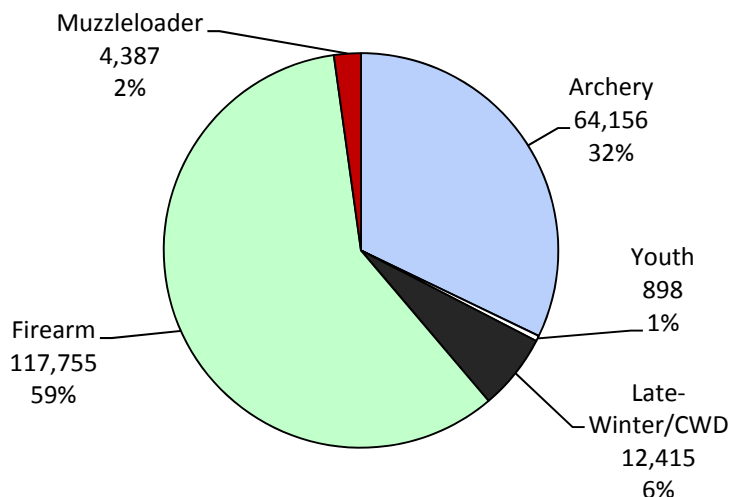
Harvest Reporting: Successful deer hunters were required to register their harvest by 10 p.m. on the same calendar day as the deer was taken by using an automated harvest reporting system (telephone or internet). The only exception to automated harvest reporting occurred in select northern Illinois counties during the firearm and special chronic wasting disease (CWD) deer seasons, where mandatory check stations were staffed by IDNR biologists to collect tissue samples for CWD surveillance.

Total Harvest (all seasons): 199,611

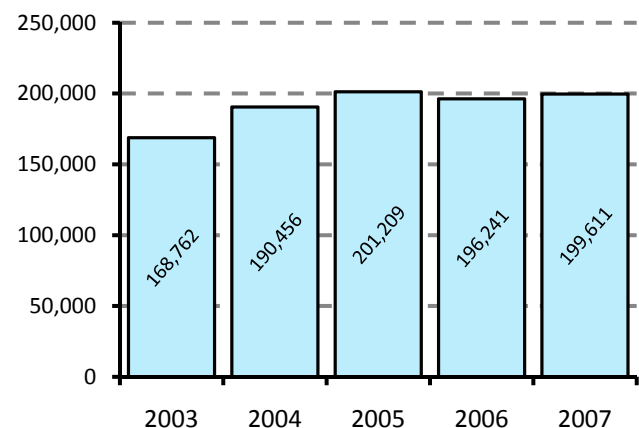
Record Harvest: 201,209 (2005)

Harvest Sex Ratio (all seasons): 53.6% male: 46.4% female; (40.8% antlered: 59.2% antlerless)

2007-2008 Illinois deer harvest by season



Recent deer harvest trends (all seasons)



Permitting

IDNR's Permit Office issued 611,545 deer permits for all seasons, including both lottery-issued permits and over-the-counter permits. The number of permits issued increased for all seasons except the Late Winter Season.

Number and types of permits issued for the 2007-2008 deer seasons			
Archery	Number of Resident Permits	Number of Nonresident Permits	Percent Nonresident
Landowner POH Permit, Either-Sex ¹	32,218	938	2.83%
Landowner POH Permit, Antlerless-Only ¹	32,218	938	2.83%
Single Antlerless-Only Permit	2,849	6,293	68.84%
Combination OTC Permit (1 ES + 1 AO)	114,365	20,006	14.89%
TOTAL	181,650	28,175	13.43%
Firearm			
Landowner POH Permit, Either-Sex ¹	44,249	1,525	3.33%
Landowner POH Permit, Antlerless-Only ¹	44,245	1,181	2.60%
Landowner Countywide Hunting Permit	0	0	0.00%
Full-season Either-Sex Permit	155,407	9,602	5.82%
Full-season Antlerless-Only Permit	83,223	6,738	7.49%
First-season Either-Sex Permit	521	0	0.00%
First-season Antlerless-Only Permit	722	1	0.14%
Second-season Either-Sex Permit	2,285	65	2.77%
Second-season Antlerless-Only Permit	268	0	0.00%
TOTAL	330,920	19,112	5.46%
Muzzleloader			
Either-Sex Permit	22,435	1,737	7.19%
Antlerless-Only Permit	8,837	1,300	12.82%
TOTAL	31,272	3,037	8.85%
Other Seasons			
Late Winter Antlerless-Only Permit	10,478	0	0.00%
CWD Antlerless-Only Permit	1,696	0	0.00%
Youth Antlerless-Only Permit	5,205	0	0.00%
Subtotal: All Seasons/Permit Types	561,221	50,324	8.23%
Grand Total	611,545		

¹ POH = "property only hunting"; a landowner permit that is valid only on the property owned/leased by that landowner

2007 Archery Deer Season Results

Length: 109 days (102 days in counties open to firearm deer hunting)

Number of Counties Open: 102

Special Regulations: Resident combination permits (one either-sex and one antlerless-only tag) available over-the-counter (OTC) in unlimited quantities. Nonresident combination permits were limited to a quota of 20,000 and issued via lottery. Single antlerless-only permits were available to both resident and nonresident hunters OTC without limit.

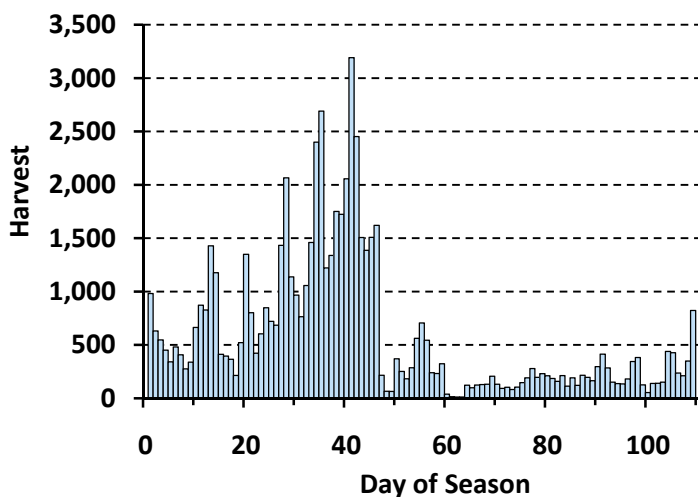
Harvest: 64,156

Season Record: 66,093 (2005)

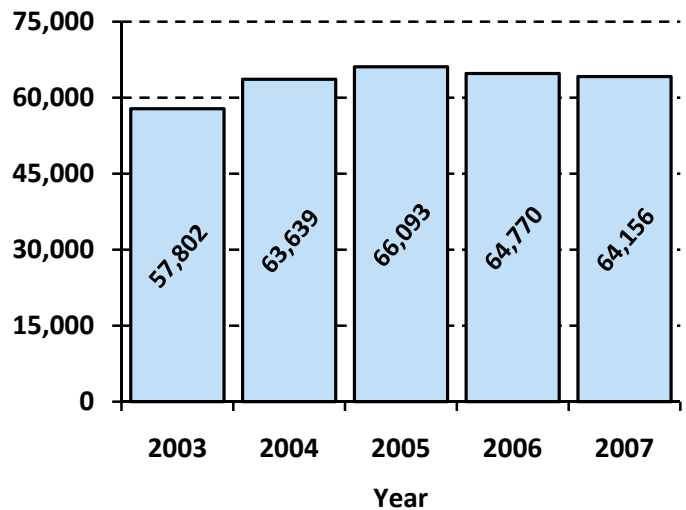
Harvest Sex Ratio: 50.8% male: 49.2% female (39.9% antlered: 60.1% antlerless)

Top 5 Counties: Pike (3,699), Fulton (1,596), Jefferson (1,498), Peoria (1,318), Adams (1,310)

Daily harvest during the 2007 archery deer season



Archery deer season harvest trends



Trends in the number of archery deer season permits issued statewide

Permit Type	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Either-Sex	26,640	28,900	30,831	32,419	33,156
Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Antlerless-Only	26,640	28,900	30,831	32,419	33,156
Single Either-Sex Permit	1,488	1,853	1,557	0	0
Single Antlerless-Only Permit	0	783	3,085	7,806	9,142
Combination Over-the-Counter Permit (double permit)	118,949	125,774	127,758	133,871	134,371
TOTAL	173,717	186,210	194,062	206,515	209,825

2007 Firearm Deer Season Results

Length: 7 days (split; one 3-day [Fri-Sun] + one 4-day [Thu-Sun] segment)

Number of Counties Open: 99 (closed in Cook, DuPage, Lake)

Special Regulations: County-specific (or special hunt area-specific) permits issued via lotteries from IDNR Permit Office. Mandatory check stations in effect for 7 northern Illinois counties (Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, McHenry, Ogle, DeKalb, Kane) and voluntary check stations in 2 counties (Grundy and LaSalle) for chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance; other counties used automated harvest reporting.

Weather Conditions: Favorable first season; wet, wintry weather on the final two days of second season.

Corn Harvest: 99% complete statewide by beginning of season

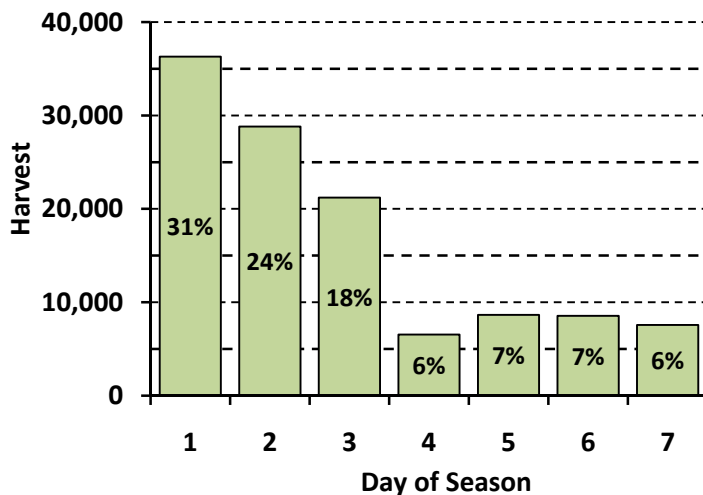
Deer Harvest: 117,755

Season Record: 123,792 (2005)

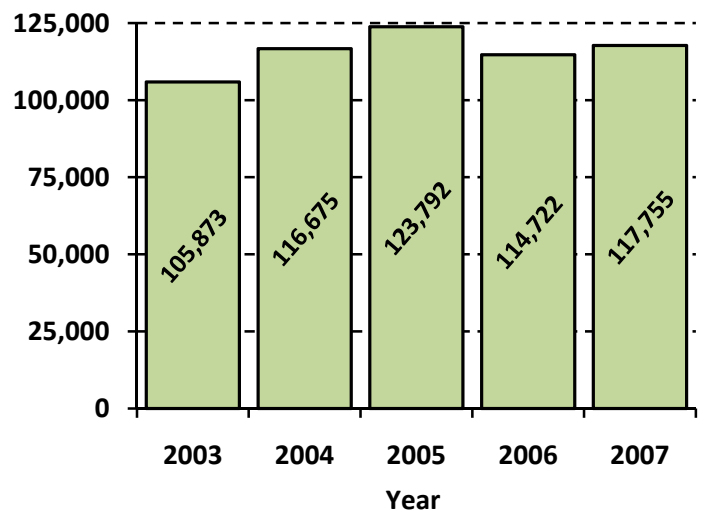
Harvest Sex Ratio: 58.7% male: 41.3% female (45.9% antlered: 54.1% antlerless)

Top 5 Counties: Pike (3,754), Jefferson (2,839), Adams (2,804), JoDaviess and Fulton (tie - 2,692)

Daily harvest during the 2007 firearm deer season



Firearm deer season harvest trends



Trends in the number of firearm deer season permits issued statewide

Permit Type	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Either-Sex	41,209	42,972	44,513	45,765	45,774
Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Antlerless-Only	40,918	42,649	44,074	45,426	45,426
Full-season Either-Sex Permit	145,268	152,692	160,106	160,668	165,009
Full-season Antlerless-Only Permit	49,102	65,526	77,014	80,750	89,961
First-season Either-Sex Permit	410	491	535	585	521
First-season Antlerless-Only Permit	558	620	557	687	723
Second-season Either-Sex Permit	10,319	3,770	2,994	2,888	2,350
Second-season Antlerless-Only Permit	946	150	147	250	268
TOTAL	288,730	308,870	329,940	337,019	350,032

2007 Youth Deer Season Results

Length: 2 days

Number of Counties Open: 99 (up from 51 during 2006)

Special Regulations: Participation limited to youths under the age of 16, and hunters must be accompanied by a responsible supervising adult. One county-specific either-sex permit allowed per hunter, issued via lottery from the IDNR Permit Office. This was the first year in which the season was open statewide and in which either-sex hunting was permitted.

Harvest: 898

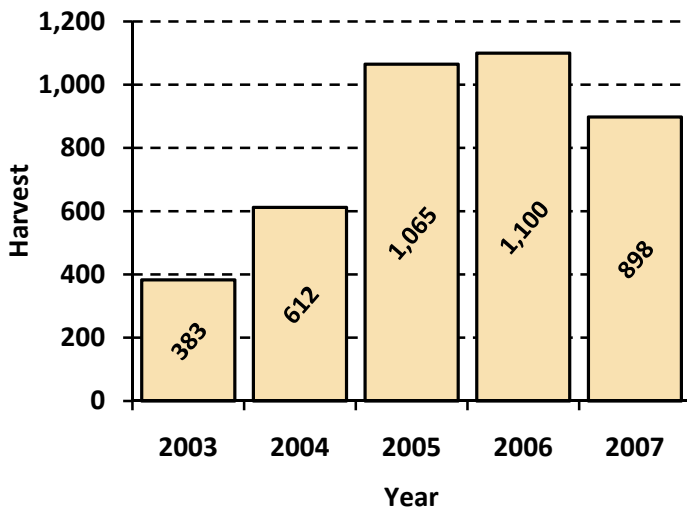
Season Record: 1,100 (2006)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 46.4% male: 53.6% female (30.2% antlered: 69.8% antlerless)

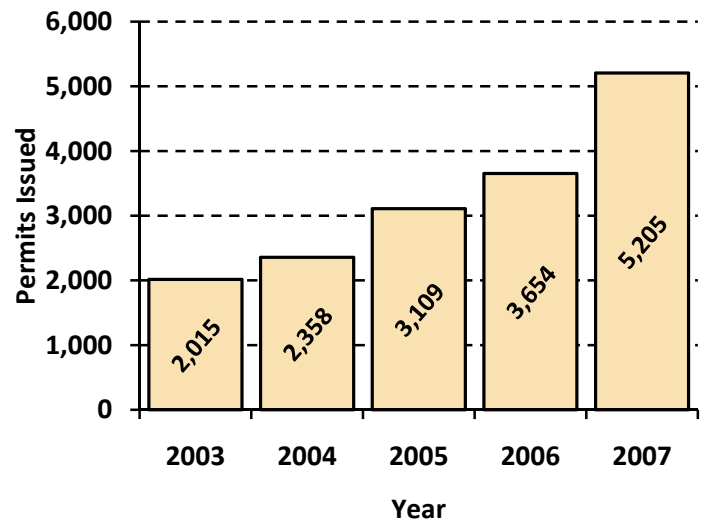
Hunter Success Rate: 17.3%

Top 5 Counties: Pike (39), Jefferson (34), Fulton (33), Marion (32), Macoupin (27)

Youth deer season harvest trends



Youth deer season trends in permits issued



2007 Muzzleloader Deer Season Results

Length: 3 days

Number of Counties Open: 99 (closed in Cook, DuPage, Lake)

Special Regulations: County-specific (or special hunt area-specific) permits issued via lotteries from IDNR Permit Office. Hunters with muzzleloader permits were also allowed to hunt with a muzzleloader during the 2nd Firearm Deer Season (4 days). Recipients of landowner permits (for their own property only) valid during the Firearm Deer Season could use those unfilled permits during the Muzzleloader Deer Season so long as they used a muzzleloading rifle.

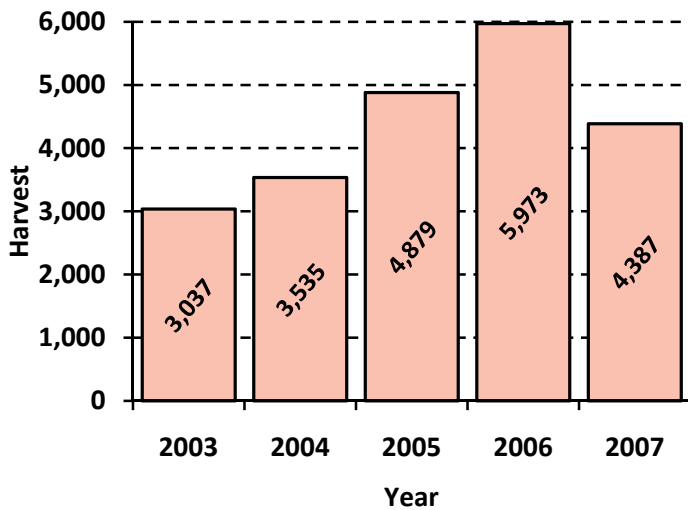
Harvest: 4,387

Season Record: 5,973 (2006)

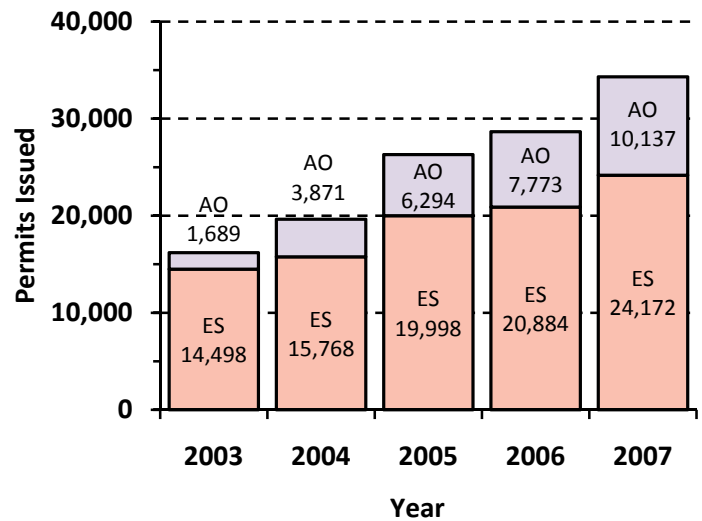
Harvest Sex Ratio: 46.1% male: 53.9% female (31.1% antlered: 68.9% antlerless)

Top 5 Counties: Pike (237), JoDaviess (141), Fulton (115), Hancock (110), LaSalle (107)

Muzzleloader deer season harvest trends



Muzzleloader deer season trends in permits issued



2007-2008 Late-Winter Deer Season Results

Length: 3 days

Number of Counties Open: 72 (67 in previous year)

Special Regulations: Legal weapons were shotguns, muzzleloaders, or handguns. County-specific antlerless-only permits issued via lottery to Illinois residents from IDNR Permit Office. Hunters with unfilled permits for the Firearm, Muzzleloader, or Youth deer seasons were allowed to hunt the Late Winter Deer Season to harvest antlerless deer, so long as the permit was issued for an open county. Persons with an unfilled Muzzleloader Season permit must use a muzzleloading rifle.

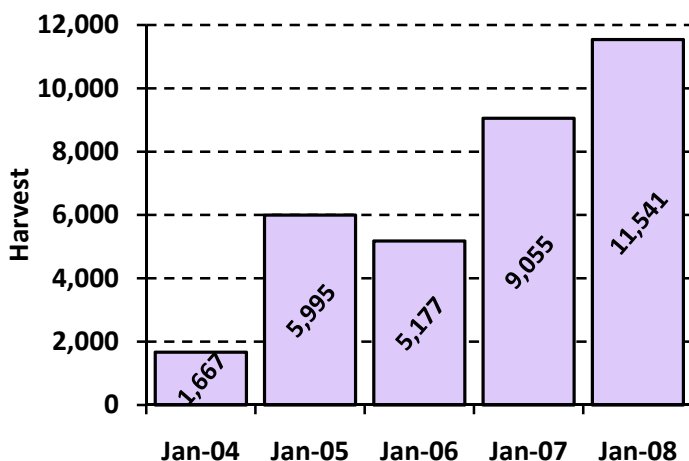
Harvest: 11,541 (new record)

Previous Record: 9,055 (2006)

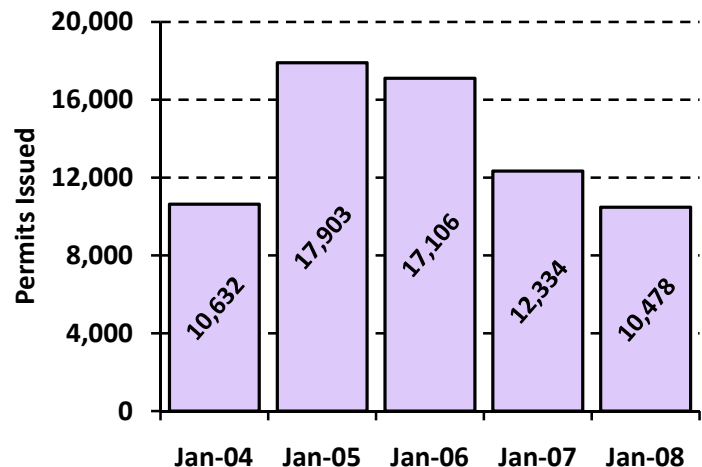
Harvest Sex Ratio: 21.3% male: 78.7% female

Top 5 Counties: Pike (714), Jefferson (431), Wayne (373), Adams (372), JoDaviess (355)

Late-Winter deer season harvest trends



Late-Winter season trends in permits issued



2007-2008 Special CWD Deer Season Results

Length: 3 days (concurrent with Late-Winter Season)

Number of Counties Open: 7 (Boone, DeKalb, Grundy, LaSalle, McHenry, Ogle, Winnebago)

Special Regulations: Legal weapons were shotguns, muzzleloaders, handguns, or bows. County-specific antlerless-only permits available OTC without limit to residents and nonresidents. Unfilled firearm, muzzleloader, youth and archery permits valid for open counties may be used during this season as long as the hunter uses only the weapon(s) allowed by that permit, and only harvests the sex of deer allowed by that permit. Mandatory county check stations were used for harvest reporting. Hunters willing to allow sampling of their harvested deer for CWD testing were given a free either-sex permit so that they could continue to hunt. The limit of 2 antlered deer was waived during this season.

Harvest: 874 (new record)

Previous Record: 621 (2006)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 34.2% male: 65.8% female (8.7% antlered: 91.3% antlerless)

Harvest Age/Sex Summary (All Seasons)

At mandatory check stations, age and sex of harvested deer were recorded by IDNR wildlife biologists. For all other deer reported via the automated harvest reporting system, deer were placed into age classes based on morphological data reported by the hunter. Age classes were female adult (≥ 1.5 years), female fawn, male adult (≥ 2.5 years), male yearling (1.5 years), and male fawn.

2007 Illinois deer harvest composition by season by sex/age class ¹							
Sex/Age Class	Archery	Youth	Firearm	Muzzleloader	Late-Winter	CWD	All Seasons
Female adult	38.9%	35.9%	31.8%	42.4%	59.1%	47.1%	36.0%
Female fawn	10.2%	17.7%	9.5%	11.5%	19.6%	18.6%	10.4%
Male adult	24.7%	11.7%	27.7%	21.1%	1.4%	9.1%	24.9%
Male yearling	15.3%	18.5%	18.2%	10.0%	1.4%	7.9%	16.1%
Male fawn	10.8%	16.3%	12.8%	15.0%	18.5%	17.3%	12.6%
Total Harvest	64,156	898	117,755	4,387	11,541	874	199,611

¹ Only harvested deer for which there was complete age/sex information were used in calculating percentages.

Age structure of antlered bucks in the 2007 Illinois deer harvest ¹			
	Archery Season	All Gun Seasons	All Harvest
Male yearling (1.5 years)	38.3%	39.6%	39.2%
Male adult (≥ 2.5 years)	61.7%	60.4%	60.8%

¹ Only harvested deer for which there was complete age/sex information were used in calculating percentages.

Proportion of antlered deer harvest by number of antler points								
	Number of Points							
	Spike	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	>14
Archery Season	2.8%	7.0%	11.6%	36.6%	28.9%	9.5%	2.4%	1.3%
All Gun Seasons	5.2%	11.3%	16.2%	37.1%	22.0%	6.0%	1.4%	0.7%
All Seasons	4.5%	10.0%	14.7%	36.9%	24.2%	7.1%	1.7%	0.9%

2007 ILLINOIS COUNTY DEER HARVEST BY SEX FOR EACH SEASON (state sites included in county totals)

County	Youth			Muzzle			L-W/CWD			Firearm			Archery			All Seasons		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Adams	12	14	26	34	35	69	90	282	372	1607	1197	2804	714	596	1310	2457	2124	4581
Alexander	0	0	0	16	19	35	0	0	0	355	178	533	109	107	216	480	304	784
Bond	6	3	9	8	6	14	20	70	90	680	492	1172	184	197	381	898	768	1666
Boone	1	0	1	5	7	12	12	13	25	132	52	184	81	65	146	231	137	368
Brown	4	6	10	45	30	75	67	175	242	922	698	1620	510	458	968	1548	1367	2915
Bureau	6	5	11	46	55	101	47	166	213	967	695	1662	450	436	886	1516	1357	2873
Calhoun	4	9	13	31	32	63	53	203	256	892	646	1538	538	530	1068	1518	1420	2938
Carroll	6	2	8	26	30	56	26	83	109	666	521	1187	292	280	572	1016	916	1932
Cass	4	2	6	12	18	30	14	69	83	551	370	921	324	277	601	905	736	1641
Champaign	0	2	2	18	10	28	0	0	0	247	144	391	213	213	426	478	369	847
Christian	2	5	7	8	13	21	15	69	84	476	271	747	196	234	430	697	592	1289
Clark	7	5	12	31	22	53	43	136	179	914	605	1519	416	369	785	1411	1137	2548
Clay	6	7	13	23	29	52	31	182	213	996	647	1643	323	316	639	1379	1181	2560
Clinton	4	3	7	11	10	21	10	45	55	636	428	1064	217	213	430	878	699	1577
Coles	2	3	5	10	17	27	8	35	43	496	338	834	333	309	642	849	702	1551
Cook	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	137	97	234	137	97	234
Crawford	7	5	12	18	20	38	40	128	168	766	537	1303	383	360	743	1214	1050	2264
Cumberland	1	4	5	13	8	21	10	61	71	567	384	951	162	148	310	753	605	1358
DeKalb	0	0	0	12	15	27	12	22	34	173	133	306	139	108	247	336	278	614
DeWitt	0	0	0	16	14	30	0	0	0	292	185	477	215	334	549	523	533	1056
Douglas	0	0	0	4	5	9	0	0	0	159	109	268	113	79	192	276	193	469
DuPage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	28	72	44	28	72
Edgar	0	1	1	10	21	31	11	49	60	491	347	838	263	179	442	775	597	1372
Edwards	0	1	1	6	10	16	16	55	71	346	230	576	102	93	195	470	389	859
Effingham	3	4	7	11	7	18	15	73	88	697	486	1183	196	215	411	922	785	1707
Fayette	10	14	24	30	28	58	50	224	274	1343	953	2296	441	443	884	1874	1662	3536
Ford	0	0	0	1	4	5	0	0	0	105	49	154	29	24	53	135	77	212
Franklin	5	10	15	14	20	34	19	112	131	825	556	1381	363	413	776	1226	1111	2337
Fulton	14	19	33	46	69	115	86	246	332	1536	1156	2692	892	704	1596	2574	2194	4768
Gallatin	2	1	3	8	10	18	0	0	0	423	267	690	196	173	369	629	451	1080
Greene	6	9	15	16	20	36	50	175	225	942	772	1714	419	417	836	1433	1393	2826
Grundy	0	0	0	11	17	28	39	85	124	296	229	525	238	242	480	584	573	1157
Hamilton	4	14	18	30	30	60	17	137	154	882	632	1514	290	329	619	1223	1142	2365
Hancock	13	8	21	49	61	110	59	180	239	1351	1017	2368	455	435	890	1927	1701	3628
Hardin	4	4	8	22	26	48	0	0	0	689	539	1228	139	231	370	854	800	1654
Henderson	2	1	3	6	10	16	11	57	68	457	306	763	152	106	258	628	480	1108

2007 ILLINOIS COUNTY DEER HARVEST BY SEX FOR EACH SEASON (state sites included in county totals)

County	Youth			Muzzle			L-W/CWD			Firearm			Archery			All Seasons		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Henry	2	2	4	20	28	48	16	64	80	574	394	968	289	245	534	901	733	1634
Iroquois	0	1	1	15	31	46	0	0	0	492	344	836	213	212	425	720	588	1308
Jackson	10	5	15	27	29	56	55	206	261	1552	980	2532	369	348	717	2013	1568	3581
Jasper	6	15	21	26	26	52	39	155	194	812	588	1400	319	336	655	1202	1120	2322
Jefferson	10	24	34	45	56	101	101	330	431	1642	1197	2839	718	780	1498	2516	2387	4903
Jersey	4	5	9	18	16	34	24	109	133	615	459	1074	337	351	688	998	940	1938
JoDaviess	14	9	23	72	69	141	102	253	355	1556	1136	2692	519	371	890	2263	1838	4101
Johnson	3	7	10	24	40	64	41	154	195	1151	745	1896	310	361	671	1529	1307	2836
Kane	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	0	47	24	71	236	171	407	284	198	482
Kankakee	0	2	2	10	5	15	0	0	0	182	102	284	175	150	325	367	259	626
Kendall	0	0	0	8	2	10	0	0	0	78	41	119	107	105	212	193	148	341
Knox	8	10	18	28	30	58	48	131	179	982	700	1682	550	478	1028	1616	1349	2965
Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	17	22	249	193	442	254	210	464
LaSalle	4	2	6	48	59	107	110	209	319	900	681	1581	598	559	1157	1660	1510	3170
Lawrence	1	4	5	10	17	27	18	72	90	451	287	738	166	209	375	646	589	1235
Lee	1	4	5	19	21	40	18	47	65	408	354	762	245	273	518	691	699	1390
Livingston	0	1	1	13	17	30	0	0	0	379	268	647	157	154	311	549	440	989
Logan	0	1	1	6	7	13	9	24	33	309	217	526	156	139	295	480	388	868
Macon	2	1	3	16	18	34	0	0	0	228	127	355	269	260	529	515	406	921
Macoupin	11	16	27	29	39	68	39	152	191	1315	982	2297	535	524	1059	1929	1713	3642
Madison	3	4	7	10	11	21	21	70	91	753	525	1278	572	575	1147	1359	1185	2544
Marion	22	10	32	41	41	82	58	257	315	1386	929	2315	569	584	1153	2076	1821	3897
Marshall	4	3	7	17	22	39	22	42	64	536	360	896	201	180	381	780	607	1387
Mason	3	1	4	14	19	33	0	0	0	411	277	688	258	229	487	686	526	1212
Massac	0	0	0	10	21	31	12	74	86	432	294	726	203	181	384	657	570	1227
McDonough	5	5	10	19	25	44	25	104	129	715	509	1224	345	256	601	1109	899	2008
McHenry	1	0	1	16	16	32	29	49	78	336	204	540	329	287	616	711	556	1267
McLean	5	3	8	14	32	46	24	55	79	457	324	781	287	304	591	787	718	1505
Menard	4	2	6	10	13	23	16	44	60	322	220	542	198	169	367	550	448	998
Mercer	3	1	4	20	25	45	13	66	79	622	463	1085	219	163	382	877	718	1595
Monroe	3	4	7	15	12	27	8	82	90	717	487	1204	151	154	305	894	739	1633
Montgomery	3	15	18	14	12	26	29	112	141	846	646	1492	340	334	674	1232	1119	2351
Morgan	10	4	14	6	20	26	28	93	121	731	502	1233	332	327	659	1107	946	2053
Moultrie	1	0	1	8	11	19	0	0	0	233	136	369	144	135	279	386	282	668
Ogle	6	8	14	40	34	74	78	149	227	795	597	1392	407	326	733	1326	1114	2440
Peoria	11	7	18	35	39	74	43	118	161	976	793	1769	695	623	1318	1760	1580	3340

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County	Youth			Muzzle			L-W/CWD			Firearm			Archery			All Seasons		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Perry	6	10	16	24	31	55	59	213	272	948	678	1626	329	370	699	1366	1302	2668
Piatt	1	1	2	3	4	7	0	0	0	157	89	246	111	117	228	272	211	483
Pike	19	20	39	117	120	237	160	554	714	2168	1586	3754	1812	1887	3699	4276	4167	8443
Pope	1	4	5	33	33	66	0	0	0	1335	835	2170	397	408	805	1766	1280	3046
Pulaski	1	1	2	14	36	50	0	0	0	448	346	794	129	196	325	592	579	1171
Putnam	1	1	2	20	19	39	8	48	56	346	264	610	140	173	313	515	505	1020
Randolph	13	11	24	29	30	59	61	282	343	1522	1087	2609	463	456	919	2088	1866	3954
Richland	7	4	11	13	6	19	19	105	124	575	437	1012	201	227	428	815	779	1594
Rock Island	0	2	2	28	22	50	22	74	96	588	451	1039	346	313	659	984	862	1846
Saline	3	1	4	10	20	30	16	131	147	697	412	1109	223	244	467	949	808	1757
Sangamon	4	5	9	18	18	36	19	83	102	586	394	980	428	399	827	1055	899	1954
Schuyler	5	11	16	40	46	86	62	239	301	1089	828	1917	517	406	923	1713	1530	3243
Scott	3	2	5	11	20	31	14	67	81	408	276	684	150	140	290	586	505	1091
Shelby	2	5	7	28	23	51	25	95	120	1002	608	1610	373	393	766	1430	1124	2554
Stark	1	7	8	4	12	16	9	34	43	210	142	352	86	84	170	310	279	589
St. Clair	4	5	9	18	15	33	17	73	90	675	486	1161	333	309	642	1047	888	1935
Stephenson	0	1	1	28	31	59	37	76	113	683	525	1208	244	204	448	992	837	1829
Tazewell	2	2	4	6	15	21	12	57	69	465	375	840	362	375	737	847	824	1671
Union	5	12	17	31	26	57	28	163	191	1275	850	2125	368	455	823	1707	1506	3213
Vermilion	1	1	2	26	31	57	21	80	101	640	372	1012	545	535	1080	1233	1019	2252
Wabash	0	1	1	1	5	6	8	23	31	228	127	355	116	120	236	353	276	629
Warren	1	0	1	10	20	30	13	40	53	419	303	722	157	118	275	600	481	1081
Washington	7	5	12	8	9	17	25	101	126	814	612	1426	211	241	452	1065	968	2033
Wayne	12	4	16	27	40	67	88	285	373	1257	849	2106	475	503	978	1859	1681	3540
White	7	6	13	22	34	56	42	170	212	768	469	1237	365	391	756	1204	1070	2274
Whiteside	2	5	7	14	21	35	28	64	92	561	464	1025	247	257	504	852	811	1663
Will	0	1	1	18	12	30	0	0	0	264	183	447	545	412	957	827	608	1435
Williamson	11	9	20	24	23	47	28	118	146	1147	837	1984	395	467	862	1605	1454	3059
Winnebago	0	4	4	10	19	29	19	48	67	345	223	568	241	177	418	615	471	1086
Woodford	3	3	6	17	29	46	21	81	102	631	495	1126	277	354	631	949	962	1911
Totals	417	481	898	2023	2364	4387	2758	9657	12415	69074	48681	117755	32621	31535	64156	106893	92718	199611
Percent	46%	54%		46%	54%		22%	78%		59%	41%		51%	49%		54%	46%	